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**DECLARATION, POWER OF ATTORNEY, AND PETITION**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name. I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

**HYDRAULIC ASYMMETRIC DAMPED BELT TENSIONER** on the specification of which:

(check one)        is attached hereto;  
  X   was filed on March 7, 2002 as  
Application Serial No. 10/071,629;  
       was amended on                     ;  
(if applicable);  
       was allowed on                     ;  
(if applicable);

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as allowed (if applicable) and/or as amended by any amendment referred to above (if applicable).

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Sec. 1.56(a).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, Sec. 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

NONE

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, Sec. 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, Sec. 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Sec. 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

10/029,440  
(Appln. S.N.)  
10/029,442  
(Appln. S.N.)

December 20, 2001  
(Filing Date)  
December 20, 2001  
(Filing Date)

Pending  
(Status-patented/pending/abandoned)  
Pending  
(Status-patented/pending/abandoned)

I hereby appoint, jointly and severally as attorneys for this application with full power of substitution and revocation to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith, the following Attorneys: Joseph V. Tassone, Registration No. 20,998 and Reuben Wolk, Registration No. 16,995. Unless changed by one of said attorneys all communications are to be addressed to:

Joseph V. Tassone, Esq.  
DAYCO PRODUCTS, LLC  
1 Prestige Place  
Miamisburg, Ohio 45342  
Telephone: (937) 226-5725

Wherefore I pray that Letters Patent be granted to me or us for the invention or discovery described and claimed in the foregoing specification and claims, and I hereby subscribe my name to the foregoing specification and claims, declaration, power of attorney, and this petition.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Richard J. Meckstroth  
Full Name (Sole/First Inventor)

Richard J. Meckstroth  
Signature

3/22/02  
Date

Vonore, Tennessee 37885-5315  
Residence

285 Pineberry Drive  
Vonore, Tennessee 37885-5315  
Post Office Address      Zip

U.S.A.  
Citizenship